



Brazilian Student Ambassadors

2012-2013



Carolina Veronese

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MD candidate, 2014

Harvard Medical School (HMS)

Carolina Veronese was born and raised in Brazil, moving to the US in 1999. She received her Bachelor's degree in Biological Sciences from Florida International University in 2008. While at FIU, Carolina was involved in research on cystic fibrosis. She currently is a 2014 MD candidate at Harvard Medical School. At HMS, she was the principal investigator on a scholarly independent study in medical education and was the recipient of the Leffert Scholar in Medical Education award in 2011 for her project. Her study assessed the feasibility, acceptability, and effectiveness of concept maps in problem-based learning tutorials at Harvard Medical School. Her interests are women's and children's health, Brazilian culture, teaching/education, and spending time with her two beautiful daughters. She plans to practice medicine in the US after graduating from medical school. She also plans to spend at least one month a year in Brazil doing volunteer work in underrepresented communities without access to medical care.



Adilson José Moreira

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SJD Candidate (2013)

Harvard Law School (HLS)

Born and raised in Brazil, Adilson José Moreira is a candidate for a doctorate degree in juridical sciences at Harvard Law School. His dissertation addresses some legal aspects of the current debate about the implementation of race-conscious policies in Brazil, especially the articulation of Brazilian racial ideologies in the process of legal interpretation. He engaged in several activities while pursuing his first degree in law at the Federal University of Minas Gerais. As an intern in institutional programs for the promotion of equality and citizenship, he had the opportunity to develop studies about the role of law in the process of social transformation. He also conducted research about the possible interactions of law and psychoanalysis during this period, one of the subjects of his master degree thesis. The question of legal representations of subjectivity became particularly important for his scholarly research, determining the content of subsequent studies. His experience with social movements and the studies of law and psychoanalysis served as an inspiration for the elaboration of his first doctoral dissertation, which proposes a new interpretative approach to equality based on the reconstruction of the notion of the individual in legal theory. The interdisciplinary character of his studies has provided him with important conceptual tools to address the complex Brazilian social reality. After completing his master degree thesis, Adilson taught constitutional law and human rights for three years in prominent Brazilian universities. Always trying to challenge the rather formalistic Brazilian legal culture, he consistently encouraged his students to understand law through the eyes of social sciences, which might be a productive approach in a society that faces grave social inequalities.



Alex Amorin Anton
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MBA Candidate (2013)
Harvard Business School (HBS)

Alex graduated in Biochemistry from Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina back in 2005 and since then has set out in a journey of exploring: the world, career possibilities and his passions. He has worked in Canada as a scientist, in Switzerland as an R&D project manager for a multinational, and in Brazil as a strategy consultant for a major global consulting firm. He is passionate about education, travel, innovation and has plenty of entrepreneurial ambitions.



Ana Paula Hirano Litvin
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PhD in Romance Languages and Literatures Candidate
Graduate School of Arts and Sciences (GSAS)

Ana Paula Hirano Litvin is a doctoral student in Harvard's Department of Romance Languages and Literatures, with a Secondary Field in Visual and Environmental Studies. Before coming to Harvard, she earned her undergraduate degree from the University of São Paulo in Economics, with additional coursework in visual anthropology, sociology, and cinema. She also received a Japanese Government Scholarship and studied at Sophia University in Tokyo for one year, during which she co-produced and co-directed the documentary film From Brazil to Japan. Her primary areas of interest are Brazilian literature and film.



Bernardo Becker Fontana
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LLM Candidate (2013)
Harvard Law School (HLS)



Catarine Baini Verdi
Program Assistant / Intern
DRCLAS - Harvard University



Claudia Kimie Suemoto-Zoriki
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Master of Science in Epidemiology Candidate (2013)
HSPH - Harvard School of Public Health

Claudia Kimie Suemoto-Zoriki is from São Paulo, Brazil. She attended University of Sao Paulo Medical School (USPMS) and also the medical residency in Internal Medicine and Geriatrics in the same institution. Since 2005, Claudia joined the Brazilian Aging Brain Study Group from USPMS. She is the research coordinator of this renowned group, which has been contributing to better knowledge of neurodegenerative diseases through clinicopathologic studies. In 2010, Claudia concluded her PhD and showed an association between cardiovascular disease and dementia. In 2011, she was hired as a professor in Geriatrics at USPMS. In the last years, Claudia has been publishing several papers about dementia, aging and education in Geriatrics. During 2012-13, she will attend a Master in Epidemiology at Harvard School of Public Health. With this experience, Claudia wants to improve her knowledge about clinical research and investigate new alternatives to design studies in the field of human aging.



Daniel Barcelos Vargas
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SJD Candidate (2013)
Harvard Law School (HLS)

Foi Ministro Chefe da Secretaria de Assuntos Estratégicos da Presidência da República (interino), onde trabalhava desde junho de 2007 e desempenhou os cargos de assessor especial, diretor, chefe de gabinete do ministro e subsecretário de Desenvolvimento Sustentável.[1] Nesta posição, auxiliou o ministro de Estado na formulação e coordenação das políticas do Plano Amazônia Sustentável (PAS).[2]

Como subchefe executivo, passou a coordenar as atividades da pasta em outras áreas, como os Projetos de Desenvolvimento do Nordeste e do Centro-Oeste.

Vargas foi assessor na Procuradoria-Geral da República e no Tribunal Superior do Trabalho (TST). É doutorando e mestre em direito pela Universidade de Harvard, e mestre e Bacharel em Direito pela Universidade de Brasília (UnB), onde presidiu o Centro Acadêmico de Direito (CADI/UnB).[3] Também realizou estudos na Suécia, Israel e Espanha. É ainda membro fundador do Grupo Brasil e Desenvolvimento.



Deborah Barbosa Alves
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Class of 2015
Harvard College

Deborah Alves is a sophomore at Harvard College studying Computer Science and Mathematics. She lived in São Paulo all her life, until she came to Harvard. As a proud Brazilian, she is currently the co-president of the Harvard Undergraduate Brazilian Association and works as an intern at the Brazil Studies Program at DRCLAS. She also loves music (including, of course, Brazilian music) and sings with the Harvard Noteables. She also likes to pursue other interests through dance, visual arts and American Sign Language classes.



Duval Guimaraes
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Master in Public Policy Candidate (2013)
Harvard Kennedy School (HKS)

Duval Guimarães is a Master in Public Policy candidate at the Harvard Kennedy School of Government (HKS). He earned his undergraduate degree with Honors in International Studies at the School of International Service at American University (AU) in 2008, where he transferred after obtaining an associate of arts degree in Political Science and Global Studies from Santa Barbara City College, in California. As part of his studies at AU, Duval spent one semester studying in the University of Brasilia's International Relations Department, where he focused on Brazilian Foreign Policy. Upon graduation from AU, Duval entered the World Bank as a Junior Professional Associate. While there, he analyzed the Latin American and Caribbean projects' portfolio for performance and risk. He then accepted an offer to join the IMF as a two-year Research Assistant in the African Department, where he was involved in the biannual publication of the IMF's Regional Economic Outlook for Sub-Saharan Africa. At HKS, Duval intends to focus on education policy. He plans to return to Brazil to develop a social entrepreneurship project related to youth education while continuing to research and advocate for structural changes in the Brazilian educational system. In the long-term, he envisions himself serving people with honesty, objectivity, and transparency as a politician.



Fabiana Santos Araujo

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Master of Architecture in Urban Design Candidate (2013)

Harvard Graduate School of Design (GSD)

Fabiana Santos Araújo is a Master's candidate of Architecture in Urban Design at the Harvard Graduate School of Design. She received a bachelor degree in Architecture from the 'Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro' (URFJ) in 2010. She has worked in France, for the architect Christian de Portzamparc between 2007 and 2009, having participated in several international Architecture and Urban Design competitions. Throughout her undergraduate degree, she has worked for the architecture firm 'Fabrica Arquitetura', which has a tradition in working on cultural center projects and in the urbanization of informal settlements. She has also worked independently as an architect in Rio de Janeiro. In the summer of 2012, she combined her thesis research with an internship at the UN-Habitat for the Latin America and the Caribbean. She is currently studying the urban development of the Conleste region, impacted by the construction of the Petrochemical Complex of Rio de Janeiro (Comperj). Fabiana's goals, after concluding her master's degree, is to return to Brazil, and to work for an organization dedicated to promotion of sustainable urban development, as well as on her own architecture practice.



Fernanda Ninin

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Student in HSPH-FMUSP Laboratory Research Program (2012)

FMUSP - Faculdade de Medicina da Universidade de São Paulo

Fernanda Maria Carvalho Ninin is a second-year medical student at the University of São Paulo (FMUSP). The opportunity to conduct research in the Ivy League is one of her biggest steps yet and will surely bring her closer to her professional goals. Throughout her teenage years, Fernanda devoted herself to studying languages in the hopes of being ready for the day she would be given the chance to go abroad and further her studies in Medicine. During middle school, she already began planning her future as a student and professional. Aiming to attend a reputable university on her way to becoming a top-notch medical doctor, she applied for and won a partial scholarship at Etapa, a renowned private high school. While taking a preparatory course for the college entrance examination, she participated in an academic contest organized by Abril, one of the biggest publishing houses in Brazil. The selection committee awarded her a brand new car for placing first in the competition. In order to help fund her college education, Fernando teaches and tutors math. She is also involved in a research project concerning antiretroviral therapy in the treatment of HIV. This initial contact with the research field motivated her to look for new opportunities, which led to the discovery of this Harvard collaborative. She recently earned a federal research grant that helps subsidize her tuition, freeing up the time and energy needed to volunteer as a math teacher for underprivileged students applying to top universities. Harvard represents the validation of all her efforts, a stepping stone to higher ground.



Flávia Medina da Cunha

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Class of 2013

Harvard College

Flávia Medina da Cunha was born in a small city called Rio Bonito/ RJ, on may 31st / 1991. she currently lives in Cambridge/ MA, but her family still lives in São Gonçalo/ RJ. At the age of 14, she was admitted to study at the Colégio Militar do Rio de Janeiro, a military high school. There, she won the titles of lieutenant colonel student (2nd position in class) and valedictorian. She also participated in the RJ Chemical Olympiad (She won a silver medal), and in the Brazilian Chemical Olympiad (She won a honorable mention). She also played volleyball and participated in the school's choir. In 2009, she received the Rui Barbosa Legislative Title granted by the City Council of São Gonçalo due to high academic performance. In the same year, she was admitted to Harvard University, and she is currently a sophomore at the college. She major in Economics and minor in Computer Sciences. She works for the Brazil Studies Program as an intern, and She is also the co-founder and co-president of HCBA (Harvard College Brazilian Association). In her free time, she enjoy reading, talking to friends, and going to the gym.



Flavia Nasser Goulart

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Master is Public Policy Candidate (2015); MBA Candidate (2015)
Harvard Kennedy School (HKS); Harvard Business School (HBS)

For the past seven years I have been working in non-profit and public organizations with projects that improve public sector's practices in Brazil. During this period I led initiatives to improve governance and management in several State and local government offices, such as meritocracy programs, design of public policies and bureaucracy reduction. In 2009 I worked for the city of São José dos Campos (in the State of São Paulo) as one of the members studying and proposing a new urban plan for the city. In 2012 (from February to July) I was working with a small group towards the foundation of a new political party in Brazil, called "Partido NOVO". After the Joint Degree Program at Harvard, my goal is to return to Brazil and continue working for the development of public leadership and better public management practices in my country.



Guilherme Finkelfarb Lichand

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2013-14 Lemann Fellow; PhD in Political Economy & Government Candidate
Graduate School of Arts and Sciences (GSAS)

Guilherme Lichand is an economist and a PhD student at Harvard in Political Economy and Government, a joint program between the Economics and Government Departments, and administrated by Harvard Kennedy School. His main research areas are Political Economy and Development. He received a BA in Economics from FGV-SP in 2007, and a MA in Economics from PUC-Rio in 2010. From 2010 to mid-2011, he worked as a Consultant at the World Bank country office in Brasília. Either through the Bank or as an independent consultant, Guilherme has worked with the Governments of Alagoas, Ceará, Rio Grande do Norte, Rio Grande do Sul and São Paulo. Guilherme is one of the founders of MGov-Brasil, a platform that provides tools for Government based upon data collection through mobile phones.



Marina Correia

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Master's Candidate (2013)
Harvard Graduate School of Design (GSD)

Born in São Paulo, Brazil. Initiated her studies in Architecture and Philosophy in São Paulo in 2001. In 2006 she earned a BS in Architecture degree from the City College of New York. Since then has worked professionally in New York, Barcelona, San Francisco and Boston, collaborating in architecture practices of various scales and developing projects independently. Since 2010 Marina has been enrolled in the Masters in Architecture Program of the Graduate School of Design at Harvard University.



Michele Nations Martin

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DMD Candidate and Geriatric Fellow (2013)
Harvard School of Dental Medicine (HSDM)



Thiago Barros Rodrigues Costa

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PhD in Applied Mathematics Candidate
School of Engineering and Applied Sciences (SEAS); Graduate School of Arts and Sciences (GSAS)

Thiago Barros Rodrigues Costa is a PhD student in Applied Math at the Harvard School of Engineering and Applied Sciences. His current research focus on developing mathematical tools to explore statistical models for networks, with application on social network analysis. Throughout his academic career, he worked in a broad range of fields, including abstract algebra, dynamical systems, combinatorics and statistics. He graduated in Computer Engineering from University of Campinas (São

Paulo, Brazil), then received a Masters degree in Mathematics from the Institute of Pure and Applied Mathematics (Rio de Janeiro, Brazil). During his undergrad and graduate studies in Brazil, he was an exchange student at École Polytechnique (Paris, France) and at the California Institute of Technology (Pasadena, CA). He was a member of Caltech's team for the Darpa Grand Challenge. He is an enthusiast of the Brazilian Math Olympiad, institution that he has been proudly collaborating since his high school years in Fortaleza, Ceará.